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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/919,331	SWALLOW ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Samuel P Siefke	1743
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.		
1. This communication is responsive to 2/17/04.		
 2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 8. 3. The drawings filed on are accepted by the Examiner 		
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 		
Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.		
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No		
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Cortified copies not received:		
* Certified copies not received: 5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).		
(a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.		
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE 7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
8. X CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.		
(a) ☑ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☑ to Paper No. 10 □ 03 0 €		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed, which has been approved by the Examiner.		
(c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.		
9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.		
Attachment(s)		
 1 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 3 Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No 7 Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material 	4∐ Interview Summar 6∐ Examiner's Amen	Patent Application (PTO-152) ry (PTO-413), Paper No dment/Comment ment of Reasons for Allowance

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6 and 8 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1 and 4 are allowed because the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a method and apparatus for determining the acid concentration of an amine solution carrying hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide received from a sour gas. The prior art only teaches the removal of heat stable salts from a hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide stream, leaving a stream with hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide. The prior art does not include separating further the hydrogen sulfide from the carbon dioxide and performing conductivity measurements after each separation, then analyzing all the conductivities of each (being three conductivity measurements 1. heat stable salt, hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide stream; 2. hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide stream; 3. carbon dioxide stream) streams to determine a total acid gas loading of the amine solution. All depending claims are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel P Siefke whose telephone number is 703-306-0093. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill A. Warden can be reached on 703-308-4037. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

Sam P. Siefke

March 11, 2004

Jill Warden
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700